

REMARKS

Applicants have received and reviewed an Office Action dated June 28, 2008. By way of response, Applicants have canceled claims 5 - 10 without prejudice, amended claims 1-4, and presented new claims 11-38. No new matter is added. Claims 1-4 and 11-38 are currently under examination. Applicants submit that the amended and newly presented claims are supported by the specification as filed.

In particular, support for the hydroxyl group added to the compounds of formulas (1) and (2) can be found in the specification as filed at least at page 9, lines 26-32, in Example 1 at pages 12 and 15-17, specifically the compounds of formulas XII, XIII, and XIV, and in Example 2 at pages 20 and 21, specifically the compounds of formulas XVII and XVIII.

Further description of the compounds recited in claims 1 and 2 is disclosed at page 9, lines 26-32, which states: "The process of obtaining said compounds is based on a dienyne metathesis cyclization reaction, constructed on the steroid CD bicyclic ring system by means of simple transformations. The fundamental steps of these transformations consist of the alkylation of kinetic enolate of the ketone containing the characteristic and duly functionalized steroid CD bicyclic ring system, together with the corresponding side chain; the alkylation of the carbonyl of the monoalkylated ketone obtained in the previous step, and finally, the resulting dienyne metathesis cyclization reaction." Here, the characteristic and functional steroid CD structure invention is disclosed.

Such disclosure supports amendments to claims 1- 4 as well as new claims 11-38.

Applicants submit that the amended and newly presented claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner objected to certain terms and phrases employed in the claims. Claims 5-10 have been canceled, which renders this rejection moot for these claims. Newly presented claims 11-38 do not include the terms and phrases objected to by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Amended claims 1-4 do not include the terms and phrases objected to by the Examiner. Applicants have employed certain wording suggested by the Examiner.

Accordingly, the amended and newly presented claims fully comply with § 112, second paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Summary

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

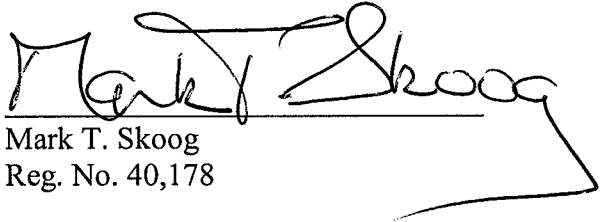
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Merchant & Gould P.C., Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 26, 2008

MTS:fc:et


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